**From:** Kornder, Steve [mailto:Steve.Kornder@aecom.com]

Sent: Monday, April 20, 2015 8:51 PM

To: Simon, Verneta; Jablonowski, Eugene; Martwick, Cathleen; Fulghum, Mary

**Cc:** Daniel Blondin (<u>DBlondin@navypier.com</u>); Steve Haemmerle (<u>shaemmerle@navypier.com</u>); Keith Johnston(<u>Keith.Johnston@mckissackdc.com</u>); Tom Conroy (<u>tconroy@mchughconstruction.com</u>); 'Lyons,

Francis' (FLyons@schiffhardin.com); Kennedy, Matthew (Chicago); Schmidt, Brian Subject: Navy Pier - Gamma Spec Results for Sample Collected April 17, 2015

## Good Evening:

I have attached the results for the sample I collected on Friday afternoon from beneath the sidewalk subgrade on the west side of Headhouse Road (southwest corner of construction area). I delivered the sample to RSSI this morning. The sample was mostly dark brown to black in color, but contained some reddish orange ash layers that contained the ceramic mantle pieces as well as several apparent asbestos mantle string ties. Based on gamma readings, the sample was collected from the top of the layer of apparently thorium contaminated soil. It likely does not represent the most contaminated portion of the fill soil present since the readings at this layer were approximately 300,000 cpm. However, the attached results indicate a radium-228 activity of 11.7 pCi/g and a radium-226 activity of approximately 0.7 pCi/g. Thus, the elevated radium-228 activity is consistent with thorium contamination as well as being well above the USEPA cleanup value of 7.1 pCi/g for total radium.

Please let us know if you have any questions regarding this sample or a desire to have this sample submitted to a USEPA contract laboratory.

Sincerely,

Steve Kornder, Ph.D.

Senior Project Geochemist

C 262.515.7700 (New Cell Number)

## **AECOM**

303 E. Wacker Drive, Suite 1400

Chicago, IL 60601

steve.kornder@aecom.com

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Monday, April 20, 2015

Steve Kornder
AECOM
303 E. Wacker Dr.
Suite 1400
Chicago, IL 60601

RE: HHRI (Bulk Soil)

Dear Mr. Kornder:

A summary of gamma spectroscopy results for our sample number G150042 is in Table 1. AECOM identified the sample as HHRIG-3 (Bulk Soil). The table below lists the concentrations of selected radionuclides. Values with a less-than symbol ("<") indicate a concentration below RSSI's minimum detectable concentration (MDC). Other identified radionuclides are in the complete gamma spectroscopy report.

Table 1. High-resolution Gamma Spectroscopy Results [pCi/g]

	Sample				
Radionuclide	G150042				
	HHRI (Bulk Soil)				
Pb-214	0.8				
Bi-214	0.7				
Ra-226 <sup>1</sup>	0.8				
Ac-228	11.7				
Ra-228 <sup>2</sup>	11.7				
Th-232 <sup>3</sup>	11.7				
T1-208	3.4				
K-40	8.7				
Pb-212	11.6				
Bi-212	12.6				
Th-228	< 2.5				

 $<sup>^{1}</sup>$  The concentration of Ra-226 is based on the surrogates Pb-214 and Bi-214.

Some radionuclides of interest, thorium-232 (Th-232), radium-226 (Ra-226), and radium-228 (Ra-228), are difficult to identify and quantify directly at low concentrations with reasonable counting

 $<sup>^{2}</sup>$  The concentration of Ra-228 is based on the surrogate Ac-228.

 $<sup>^{3}</sup>$  The concentration of Th-232 is based on the surrogate Ac-228.

Steve Kornder April 20, 2015 Page 2



intervals. The concentrations of surrogates with more abundant high energy photons usually represent the concentration of Th-232, Ra-226, and Ra-228. The successful use of surrogates depends upon the radionuclides in each series being in equilibrium.

Ra-226, in the uranium series, has only one significant photon at 186.21 keV with a gamma fraction slightly greater than 0.03. Analysis for Ra-226 using this energy is difficult because of the possible presence of uranium-235 (U-235), which has an interfering 185.72 keV photon with a 0.57 gamma fraction, and protactinium-234 (Pa-234) which emits an interfering 186.15 keV photon with a 0.02 gamma fraction. Bismuth-214 (Bi-214) and lead-214 (Pb-214), in the uranium series, may be used as surrogates for Ra-226 when these radionuclides are in equilibrium. Gamma fraction is the fraction of decays that produce a photon of a given energy.

The equilibrium between Ra-226 and its surrogates may be disturbed when samples are collected; radon-222 (Rn-222), a short-lived (half-life of 3.8 days) gaseous Ra-226 decay product, can be released. Pb-214 and Bi-214 return to equilibrium with Ra-226 in a sample after an ingrowth period. Equilibrium is reestablished within seven half-lives of Rn-222. In standard protocols, samples are held for a 30-day ingrowth period to reestablish equilibrium. These samples were not held for an in-growth period of at least 30 days.

Both Th-232 and Ra-228, in the thorium series, emit photons with very low gamma fractions at very low energies. In the thorium series, actinium-228 (Ac-228) is usually in equilibrium with both Th-232 and Ra-228 when collected.

The complete spectroscopy analysis results are attached. Please call me at 847-965-1999 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Aaron Morris

n O. Moris

attachment

ORTEC g v - i (1215) Env32 G53W4.22 20-APR-2015 17:28:18 RSSI Spectrum name: G150042.An1

Sample description

G150042 AECOM, HHRI, 785.7 g

Spectrum Filename: H:\GammaVision\User\Spectra\G150042.An1

\*\*\*\*\* SUMMARY OF NUCLIDES IN SAMPLE \*\*\*\*\* Time of Count Uncertainty 1 Sigma Counting Nuclide Activity uCi/q 7.9487E-07 8.356E+00% 8.713E+00% 1.1603E-05 1.076E+00% 3.157E+00% 1.2553E-05 4.476E+00% 5.012E+00% PB-214 PB-212 BI-212 1.1684E-05 1.850E+00% 2.834E+00% AC-228 Tl-210 < 2.0372E-08 3.4386E-06 1.809E+00% 2.911E+00% 8.7032E-06 4.302E+00% 5.489E+00% TL-208 K - 407.4788E-07 1.078E+01% 1.102E+01% BI-214 PB-210 < 1.6741E-05

- Th-228 < 2.5292E-06 < MDA value printed.
  - A Activity printed, but activity < MDA.
  - B Activity < MDA and failed test.
  - C Area < Critical level.
  - F Failed fraction or key line test.
  - H Halflife limit exceeded

----- S U M M A R Y ------

Total Activity ( 1120.2 to 1749.7 keV) 4.952E-05 uCi/g

This section based on library: AECOM - 2015-01.Lib

- 1 -

Sample description

G150042 AECOM, HHRI, 785.7 g

Spectrum Filename: H:\GammaVision\User\Spectra\G150042.An1 \*\*\*\*\* SUMMARY OF LIBRARY PEAK USAGE \*\*\*\*\* - Nuclide - Average ----- Peak -----Name Code Activity Energy Activity Code MDA Value keV uCi/g COMMENTS uCi/q uCi/q PB-214 N 7.9487E-07 351.93 7.774E-07 ?( 5.347E-08 1.21E+01 G 295.22 8.286E-07 ( 8.982E-08 1.15E+01 G 77.11 0.000E+00 4.227E-09 0.00E+00 XA 241.99 0.000E+00 3.196E-09 0.00E+00 G 74.82 0.000E+00 7.760E-09 0.00E+00 XA PB-212 N 1.1603E-05 238.63 1.163E-05 @( 5.525E-08 1.08E+00 G 300.09 1.127E-05 ( 5.086E-07 5.23E+00 G BI-212 N 1.2553E-05 727.33 1.255E-05 ( 3.054E-07 4.48E+00 G 1620.50 1.626E-05 + 785.37 2.407E-05 + 2.000E-06 1.47E+01 G 2.448E-06 1.68E+01 G 893.41 2.110E-05 + 4.083E-06 2.35E+01 G AC-228 N 1.1684E-05 911.20 1.183E-05 ( 6.412E-08 1.85E+00 G 968.97 1.176E-05 ( 1.537E-07 2.37E+00 G 338.32 1.136E-05 ( 1.735E-07 2.92E+00 G 964.77 1.139E-05 ( 7.848E-07 7.71E+00 G 463.00 1.267E-05 + 6.526E-07 8.19E+00 G T1-210 N 0.0000E+00 298.00 0.000E+00 & 2.037E-08 1.00E+03 G 799.60 0.000E+00 & 1.504E-08 1.00E+03 G 1210.00 0.000E+00 % 1.019E-07 1.00E+03 G 1070.00 0.000E+00 % 6.341E-08 1.00E+03 G 1316.00 0.000E+00 % 2.732E-08 1.00E+03 G TL-208 N 3.4386E-06 583.19 3.439E-06 (P 2.567E-08 1.80E+00 G 510.77 4.136E-06 + 1.564E-07 4.93E+00 G 860.58 4.196E-06 + 2.412E-07 6.09E+00 G 277.37 4.863E-06 + 3.439E-07 1.43E+01 G 763.13 4.227E-06 + 1.119E-06 2.45E+01 G K - 40N 8.7032E-06 1460.82 8.703E-06 (P 2.136E-07 3.58E+00 G BI-214 N 7.4788E-07 609.32 7.479E-07 (P 4.108E-08 1.01E+01 G 1764.49 0.000E+00 = 0.000E+00 0.00E+00 G 1120.29 1.286E-06 + P 1.596E-07 1.66E+01 G 1238.12 1.001E-06 + P 3.162E-07 3.69E+01 G 768.36 4.320E-07 - 3.498E-07 7.78E+01 G I-129 0.0000E+00 39.58 0.000E+00 0.000E+00 0.00E+00 G 

ORTEC g v - i (1215) Env32 G53W4.22 20-APR-2015 17:28:18 RSSI Spectrum name: G150042.An1

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G150042 AECOM, HHRI, 785.7 g

Spectrum Filename: H:\GammaVision\User\Spectra\G150042.An1

29.46 0.000E+00 0.000E+00 0.00E+00 X

PB-210 N 0.0000E+00

46.54 0.000E+00 % 1.674E-05 1.00E+03 G

Th-228 N 0.0000E+00

84.37 0.000E+00 % 2.529E-06 1.00E+03 G 215.98 0.000E+00 % 7.868E-06 1.00E+03 G 166.41 0.000E+00 & 1.807E-05 1.00E+03 G 205.93 0.000E+00 & 7.834E-05 1.00E+03 G

Peak Codes:

- ( This peak used in the nuclide activity average.
- \* Peak is too wide, but only one peak in library.
- ! Peak is part of a multiplet and this area went negative during deconvolution.
- ? Peak is too narrow.
- @ Peak is too wide at FW25M, but ok at FWHM.
- % Peak fails sensitivity test.
- \$ Peak identified, but first peak of this nuclide failed one or more qualification tests.
- + Peak activity higher than counting uncertainty range.
- - Peak activity lower than counting uncertainty range.
- = Peak outside analysis energy range.
- & Calculated peak centroid is not close enough to the library energy centroid for positive identification.
- P Peakbackground subtraction
- } Peak is too close to another for the activity to be found directly.

## Nuclide Codes:

T - Thermal Neutron Activation G - Gamma Ray

F - Fast Neutron Activation X - X-Ray

N - Naturally
P - Photon Reaction
C - Charged Particle Reaction
K - Key Line
A - Not in Average R - Coincidence Corrected C - Coincidence Peak

H - Halflife limit exceeded

This section based on library: AECOM - 2015-01.Lib

ORTEC g v - i (1215) Env32 G53W4.22 20-APR-2015 17:28:18
RSSI Spectrum name: G150042.An1

Sample description

G150042 AECOM, HHRI, 785.7 g

Spectrum Filename: H:\GammaVision\User\Spectra\G150042.An1

*****	** U N I	DENTIF	I E D	PEAK	S U M M	ARY	****	*****
Peak Cer	ntroid B	ackground Ne	et Area	Intensity	Uncert	FWHM	Susp	ected
Channel	Energy	Counts	Counts	Cts/Sec 1	Sigma %	keV	Nucl	ide
130.47	26.20	10465.	23056.	6.404	1.33	4.532	-	sM
190.83	39.17	5462.	1284.	0.357	12.19	1.709	-	sM
362.04	75.95	9080.	7231.	2.009	3.71	4.267	_	sM
400.27	84.17	4356.	157.	0.044	91.16	0.598	_	sM
901.54	191.89	3707.	542.	0.151	32.56	0.382	_	s
933.80	198.90	2845.	203.	0.056	37.79	2.311	_	D
959.54	204.43	4691.	336.	0.093	29.35	2.312	_	D
982.73	209.42	3922.	1949.	0.541	5.08	2.313	_	D
1265.94	270.21	2517.	1386.	0.385	9.00	1.948	_	M
1535.04	328.05	2675.	1075.	0.299	12.08	1.772	_	s
2505.57	536.68	204.	64.	0.018	39.26	0.504	_	s
2539.07	543.88	328.	51.	0.014	58.95	0.443	_	S
2587.33	554.25	706.	165.	0.046	38.46	0.395	-	s

s - Peak fails shape tests.

This section based on library: AECOM - 2015-01.Lib

D - Peak area deconvoluted.

L - Peak written from unknown list.

C - Area < Critical level.

M - Peak is close to a library peak.

ORTEC g v - i (1215) Env32 G53W4.22 20-APR-2015 17:28:18 RSSI Spectrum name: G150042.An1 Sample description G150042 AECOM, HHRI, 785.7 g Spectrum Filename: H:\GammaVision\User\Spectra\G150042.An1 Acquisition information Start time: 20-Apr-2015 15:04:10 Live time: 3600 Real time: 3619 Dead time: 0.53 % Detector ID: 3 Detector system CLTCOMP MCB 9 Calibration Filename: 2015-04-20 DEC, 30%, v. 9.Spc 2015-03-13 30% GEM-30185-P Calibration Energy Calibration Created: 20-Apr-2015 17:25:40 -1.837 keV Zero offset: 0.215 keV/channel Gain: 2.543E-08 keV/channel^2 Quadratic: Efficiency Calibration 13-Mar-2015 09:43:41 Created: Type: Polynomial Uncertainty: 1.183 % -0.565298 -4.206668 0.446344 Coefficients: -0.045674 0.001367 -0.000021 Library Files AECOM - 2015-01.Lib Main analysis library: Library Match Width: 0.500 Peak stripping: Library based Analysis parameters Analysis engine: Env32 G53W4.22 Analysis c....
Start channel: | Start channel: 20 ( 2.46keV )
| Stop channel: 8144 ( 1749.69keV )
| Peak rejection level: 100.000% Peak search sensitivity: 3 7.8570E+02 Sample Size: Activity scaling factor: 1.0000E+00/(1.0000E+00\*7.8570E+02) =1.2728E-03 Detection limit method: Traditional ORTEC method 1.0000000E+00 1.0000000E+00 Random error: Systematic error: Fraction Limit: 0.000% Background width: best method (based on spectrum). Half lives decay limit: 12.000 Activity range factor: 2.000 Min. step backq. energy 0.000 Multiplet shift channel 2.000 Corrections Status Comments Decay correct to date: NO Decay during acquisition: NO Decay during collection: NO True coincidence correction: NO Peaked background correction: YES 2014-10-09-10 Background, 30%, G 10-Oct-2014 12:56:45 Absorption (Internal): NO Geometry correction: NO Random summing: NO total peaks alloc. 30 cutoff 20.00000 Energy Calibration

Normalized diff: 0.1329